‘We have to have data, and it has to be public’

DAY 4 OF OUR SPECIAL FOCUS ON CAMPUS SEX ASSAULT WESTWOOD, metroNEWS

Vancouver metro

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metroLIFE

‘Surprise, fear, alarm’ after attack

CAMPUS RESIDENCE

UBC accused of slow response to attempted murder

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

“I am shocked and very concerned,” University of B.C. president Santa Ono said in a letter following a violent assault in a campus residence that sent a woman to hospital more than 24 hours earlier.

Ono’s statement came minutes after the RCMP announced charges of attempted murder, aggravated assault and assault with a weapon against Thamer Almestadi, 18.

“We are focused on supporting the victim and the victim’s family,” Ono wrote. “We are also deeply concerned for the students who witnessed the assault or who have been affected.”

But the day’s delay to comment publicly and several hours to inform students and faculty led UBC Sexual Assault Panel member Lucia Lorenzi to demand better — even though Ono seemed “more heartfelt and concerned than perhaps any communications I’ve ever seen from the administration since I’ve been there,” she told Metro in a phone interview. “It expressed genuine concern.”

What didn’t get a passing grade was how long it took for the school to re-assure the UBC community, she said.

“What I saw over the previous 27 hours was surprise, fear, alarm, and deep concern about the fact that UBC hadn’t said anything,” Lorenzi said.

The attack took place in Totem Park residence at roughly 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, the RCMP said in a statement, adding that the suspect “was apprehended by another male” before police arrived. Witnesses alleged the attacker strangled and held a knife to the victim’s throat, cutting her, CTV News reported.

Jody Reyes feels she was discriminated against as a single mother when she looked for housing in the Lower Mainland.

JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

RENTERS REALITY

Single mothers, same-sex male couples face discrimination in rental housing market, thanks to dismal vacancy rate, says prof

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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Judicial Council wants more disciplinary options for judges. **Canada**

City closer to regulating Airbnb

COUNCIL

Company calls itself 'housing affordability solution'

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver council was presented with two very different pictures of Airbnb as councillors deliberated over a new proposal to allow and regulate short-term rentals in Vancouver.

Alex Dagg, policy manager for Airbnb, presented short-term rentals as "a housing affordability solution for residents."

"Homesharing makes it possible for thousands in Vancouver to afford to stay in their homes," Dagg said.

"Fifty-three per cent (of Airbnb hosts) have reported to us that it allows them to stay in their home, and 12 per cent of our hosts reported that by sharing their space on Airbnb, they avoided foreclosure and eviction."

On the other extreme was Ulrike Rodrigues, a Mount Pleasant resident whose condo building on 7th Avenue has become a de facto hotel, with as many as 10 suites owned by the same person listed on Airbnb.

"Keep in mind this is a shared building; it has common areas, storage lockers, parking, laundry," Rodrigues said, adding that there have been incidents in which storage lockers in the building were broken into with no sign of forced entry.

Ulrike Rodrigues spoke in favour of the City of Vancouver's proposed short-term rental policy on Wednesday. Multiple suites owned by the same person in Rodrigues' condo building are currently listed on Airbnb. JEN ST. DENIS/METRO

> **Homesharing makes it possible for thousands in Vancouver to afford to stay in their homes.**
> Alex Dagg

"We have some seniors, we have people for whom English is a second language, and they're like, 'Who are all these people coming and going?'"

Council voted to proceed to public consultation. The proposal will come before council in early 2017 for approval.

To Rodrigues, the proposed policy "looks amazing." It proposes to both legalize short-term rentals — currently rentals under 30 days are not allowed under city bylaws — and regulate the practice by requiring property owners or renters to apply for a business licence.

To get a licence, renters or homeowners must prove the home or rooms they want to rent out is their principal residence and must display their permit when listing the room or unit.

Under the proposed regulations, a homeowner who lives in a house and wants to Airbnb a basement suite or a laneway house will not be able to get a licence because those units are not their principal residence.

Airbnb is ready to work with the city, Dagg said, but there needs to be more flexibility in the regulation to allow homeowners to use short-term rentals for those secondary suites. Many people want to keep those units free for family visits or the possible return of adult children, she said, meaning that people might choose to keep the units vacant rather than rent them out long-term.

The main goal of the new policy is to encourage long-term rental at a time of extremely low rental vacancy, sky-high rents and tenants undergoing long, frustrating searches.

Although city staff have estimated that 1,000 units could be returned to long-term rental stock through the new regulations, NPA Coun. George Affleck questioned whether this policy will achieve that result. He believes speeding up the building permit process would be more helpful.

"When I first spoke to council in April, I said please think about our shared rental and condo buildings," Rodrigues said, "because this is where a lot of the affordable housing lives and it's being swallowed up by this kind of mechanism."

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Single mom faces daunting reality of housing market

UBC PROFESSOR:

Vulnerable groups hurt most by lack of rented housing

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Dismal rental vacancy rates in the Lower Mainland mean vulnerable people face an uphill battle in the search for housing.

Jody Reyes is a single mother living in Metro Vancouver and says she was so discouraged by her previous attempts to find housing that she feels stuck at her parents' home.

She applied for social housing in 2010 but when a BC Housing worker called her to go over her application, she knew she had not passed the test.

"I feel that if this was a regular situation, in the sense that if I was married, I would not have been asked such intrusive questions," claimed Reyes, who is also a domestic abuse survivor.

"They even asked me questions like do you know how you got yourself into this situation?"

BC Housing did not provide a comment by deadline.

UBC professor Nathanael Lauster says people who face stigma are more likely to have a hard time finding housing, especially in the rental market.

"Even with a healthy vacancy rate that would be a problem but with the vacancy rate so low, it's even more of a problem."

Jody Reyes lives with her son at her parents house in Metro Vancouver. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

> I feel that if this was a regular situation, in the sense that if I was married, I would not have been asked such intrusive questions.
> Jody Reyes

Metro Vancouver's rental vacancy rate is 0.8 per cent according to the Canada Mortage and Housing Corporation.

Lauster co-authored a 2011 study that found single mothers were 14 per cent more likely to receive either a negative response or no response at all from landlords when inquiring about a listing than heterosexual couples.

The analysis took into account 1,669 interactions with landlords in Metro Vancouver and also found same-sex male couples faced even more discrimination — they were 24 per cent less likely to receive a positive response from landlords.

Stories like Reyes' show how important it is for governments to encourage more rental housing, because it is often the most vulnerable who feel the brunt of low vacancy rates, said Lauster, whose research focuses on family and housing.

"It is important that we get more rental housing stock out there for reasons like these for groups who are already marginalized."

Reyes, now in her early 30s, drops her son off at elementary school before heading to work as an advocate for domestic violence survivors. She told Metro she is passionate about her job and that the next step is to find her own place.

"I would really love to be on my own and start life fresh in a new space."

But she says the region's low vacancy rate and the judgement she feels from people for being a single mother is a daunting reality she doesn't want to face.

"I know I should be going through that process again to find a place but I just don't feel like going through all of that again."

DEPRESSION

Campaign helps find the words

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

A new campaign will soon help friends find the right words when talking about depression.

The Mood Disorders Association of B.C. (MDABC) is launching a campaign called What Helps, What Hurts, Oct. 14 aimed at young adults trying to help a friend who is suffering from depression or low moods.

Free pocket guides, hundreds of transit posters and the website (whathelpswhathurts.com) prepares friends to talk about the issue, and helps them avoid stigmatizing language that can sometimes make a friend's depression even worse.

"We learned from focus groups that people often said they had a friend who was going through something and they just didn't know what to do and what to say," said Polly Guetta, development co-ordinator at MDABC. "The motivation was there to help, but they just didn't have the skills."

The guidebook offers advice to people on the best ways to check-in with friends, listen to them, encourage them to seek help and follow up.

MDABC executive director Martin Addison said depression is still widely stigmatized among youth.

> We learned from focus groups that people often said ... they just didn't know what to do and what to say
> Polly Guetta

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ENVIRONMENT

Rain forest project earns group $100K award

Three groups that were once labelled enemies of the province by a British Columbia premier have been given an international award for their work in helping to protect the Great Bear Rainforest.

The Rainforest Solutions project, a collective effort of Greenpeace, the Sierra Club and Stand.earth, has received the $100,000 Buckminster Fuller Design Award for a decades-long effort to safeguard the forest.

In 1996, during the peak of the so-called War in the Woods to save B.C.'s old-growth forest, then-premier Glen Clark called the environmental groups enemies of British Columbia.

Valerie Langer of Stand.earth said they're pleased to be recognized by the foundation for helping solve divisive conflicts involving environmentalists, logging firms, First Nations and the provincial government.

The Buckminster Fuller Institute said in a statement that the groups played a critical role in developing one of the most extraordinary approaches to conservation, social justice and indigenous rights in recent memory, resulting in an unprecedented agreement.

The area stretches for about 400 kilometres along the B.C. central coast and has one of the largest intact temperate rainforests on the planet. It's also home to an array of wildlife, including the Kermode bear, a white sub-species of the black bear.

Earlier this year the government announced that it would protect 85 per cent of the region's old-growth forests, would recognize aboriginal rights and share decision-making with the 26 First Nations in the region. Prince William officially declared the rainforest part of the Queens Conservation Canopy, a Commonwealth program, when he was in Bella Bella last week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TRANSLINK

A Donald Trump puppet dances atop a flatbed truck outside Trump Tower in downtown Vancouver on Wednesday, as part of a voter registration drive. DAVID P. BALL/METRO

Puppet urges voters abroad

U.S. ELECTION

Trump 'a danger to the flag and the Constitution'

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

The dancing Donald Trump effigy on Georgia Street was suitably orange.

Alternating between angry gesticulations and awkward gyrations, the papier-mache puppet was part of an anti-Trump publicity stunt staged Wednesday in front of The Donald's most recognizable Vancouver landmark: Trump Tower.

"He's done nothing for the people, for the environment, or for different races," said a 48-year-old former U.S. Marine who served two tours of the Persian Gulf but asked Metro not to identify him. "What's happening in the U.S. now isn't going to get any better under Trump.

"He's a danger to the flag and the Constitution."

The event, which featured a mobile voter registration booth to sign U.S. citizens abroad up for next month's election, was organized by the online campaign group Avaaz.

"In Vancouver, a lot of people find what Trump says objectionable," said Avaaz staffer Joseph Huff-Hannon, a U.S. citizen himself. "We want to make sure Americans abroad register to vote and make sure they participate — so they can get this guy back into just the hotel business."

Several dozen people joined the midday event, including one woman offering face-painting — another volunteered to have the stars-and-stripes flag cover her face — as Avaaz organizers used iPads to ensure U.S. voters were registered, provided they provided proof of their eligibility.

According to Statistics Canada, there were 263,475 U.S. citizens living in the country. With the election predicted to be tight between Democrat candidate Hilary Clinton and Republican nominee Trump, Huff-Hannon said every single vote will be essential, especially for Americans in Canada from closely fought states.

> **We want to make sure Americans abroad register to vote and make sure they participate — so they can get this guy back into just the hotel business.**
> Joseph Huff-Hannon

Trump Tower itself has generated controversy since its unveiling in Vancouver, with municipal politicians saying the hotel's naming was not welcome here, and a Mexican construction worker helping to build it raising his country's flag atop the building in protest of Trump's comments accusing Mexicans of being rapists and thieves.

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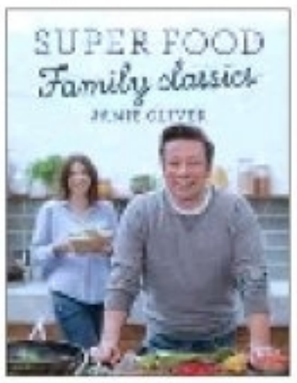

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For those about to walk...

...we salute you, as Vancouver, Burnaby and New Westminster residents tout walkability as the thing they value most in their neighbourhoods, according to the Vancouver Foundation's Vital Signs 2016 survey released this week. The results help the Vancouver Foundation identify emerging trends and concerns within communities and steer their grant money to organizations addressing those areas.

MATT KIELTYKA METRO

Top 5 concerns in our communities:

1. **Housing** – 19%
2. **Safety** – 18%
3. **Employment and economic environment** – 13%
4. **Transportation or getting around** – 9%
5. **Environment and sustainability** - 8%

Top priorities for improving housing options:

1. **Improving the affordability of home ownership** – 56%
2. **Improving the affordability of rental housing** – 46%
3. **Increasing rental vacancy availability** – 30%

Top 5 reasons we love our communities:

1. **Natural beauty/ scenery – 36%**
2. **Overall quality of life** – 30%
3. **Friends and family close by** – 27%
4. **Walkability/easy to move around** – 21%
5. **Climate** – 19%

Percentage of residents that value walkability as what they like most about their community:

1. **Vancouver** – 47%
2. **New Westminster/ Burnaby** – 35%
3. **Metro Vancouver region** – 29%
4. **Outside Metro Vancouver** – 11%

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Stanford students in Palo Alto, Calif., wear a 1/3 sign on their caps during graduation in June to show solidarity for a rape victim. The 1/3 represents a statistic that claims one in three students will experience a sexual assault by the time they graduate college. GABRIELLE LURIE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

No appetite for answers

Schools aren't collecting useful data on sexual assaults, and no one seems keen to make them

Rosemary Westwood
Metro | Toronto

When it comes to campus sexual assault in this country, simple questions do not net simple answers. Asking for the national number of sexual assaults is easy. But here's the truth: We have absolutely no idea. We don't even attempt to know the answer.

And we're unlikely to any time soon.

When the Toronto Star tried to get a handle on the national number of campus sexual assaults back in 2014, the effort proved fairly fruitless. Some schools collected data. Some did not. Some posted data publicly, and some did not. And because what data did exist wasn't collected in a consistent manner, it was impossible to make meaningful comparisons between schools.

The CBC didn't fare much better in 2015. It found just 700 reported cases on 87 campuses between 2009 and 2013. But according to academic studies in the U.S., between one-in-five and one-in-three women will experience a sexual assault on campus. Applying those proportions to Canada suggests between 230,000 and 360,000 assaults among the 1.1 million women that Statistics Canada recorded as enrolled at Canada's post-secondary schools in the 2013-2014 academic year, when the agency last counted.

So even if all schools could be counted on to record and publicize every formally reported sexual assault, the results wouldn't come close to representing the true number of victims. Many survivors simply don't tell their schools anything.

For those who do tell their schools about assaults or harassment, there's often a choice between making a formal complaint — thereby submitting to whatever investigation or adjudication process accompanies that — or keeping the complaint informal, appealing to campus administration not for justice but merely for support and accommodation with regard to, say, housing arrangements or class schedules.

A recent Globe and Mail investigation found that only 10 per cent of reports from a sample of 20 Canadian schools became formal complaints. Crucially, many schools don't include informal complaints — the remaining 90 per cent of reported cases — in the publicly reported data. And, of course, many don't publicize data at all.

Take, for example, the University of Toronto, which unlike many schools has collected and made public some sexual-assault data since 2011. An information request by student paper the Strand discovered 137 cases in which a sexual assault was disclosed and 22 formal reports at the university in 2015, with zero expulsions. Meanwhile, campus security data shows only three formal sexual-assault reports in 2015 and seven in 2014.

10%

Percentage of reports that become formal complaints, according to the Globe and Mail

The discrepancy demonstrates the problems that remain even when schools bother to collect and publicize data. But most schools in the country aren't legally required to do even that much — let alone do so according to standardized methods that could produce useful school-to-school and province-to-province comparisons.

Ontario's new sexual violence and harassment law, Bill 132, does include data and disclosure requirements, as does a private member's bill being considered in Manitoba. But B.C.'s Liberal government amended similar provisions out of a private member's bill in its legislature.

In the absence of mandated disclosure, students have no way of knowing how many assault and harassment victims have engaged their schools' disciplinary processes. In the odd math of sexual assault, high formal reporting rates may actually suggest that a school is doing something right, that students and staff trust the process — or, at least, that they can figure out how to access it.

According to Michele Dauber, a law professor at Stanford University and a prominent critic of U.S. sexual-assault policy, Canadian students won't be well served until the entire post-secondary sector gets on the same page.

"We have to have data and it has to be public," she said, "because that creates an unstoppable force of public pressure for change."

The biggest problem with government efforts to date, on both sides of the border, she said, is that they don't include victimization surveys. Students at every university and college should take "the same, uniform, anonymous" survey, she said, so that data is comparable across campuses. And it should be publicly available and searchable for all students.

If the U.S., which requires schools to report formal complaints of sexual assaults, had that kind of system, "this problem would have been solved 10 years ago."

Join The Fight

Tell your story and pressure your MP using **#safercampusnow** and follow the series online at **metronews.ca**.

About the series

Mon. | The power of five
The most organized Canada-wide effort to combat campus sexual assault comes from an unlikely crew of five young women.

Tues. | A federal vacuum
The problem is national, but solutions have been regional and parochial.

Wed. | The U.S. example
The U.S.'s laws and White House directives combine to create more rigorous requirements for schools.

Thurs. | Dearth of data
We don't know how big the problem is because no one is incentivized to find out.

Fri. | The way ahead
We have a problem; we need a plan.

ACCIDENT PIGS DEAD IN TRUCK CRASH More than 100 pigs survived a truck crash in the Toronto area only to be marched to the slaughterhouse on foot shortly afterward. Police said there were approximately 180 pigs in the vehicle and most of them remained pinned inside as workers slowly removed them from the toppled truck and walked them to the plant. An estimated 40 pigs died. CONTRIBUTED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DIVORCE

Japan denies claim it is 'black hole' for abducted kids

The Japanese government insists it has been complying with international child-abduction rules despite criticism to the contrary from Canadian parents who have been unable to gain access to their children in Japan.

In a statement, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said its top priority is to protect the interests of the children involved in such disputes.

"It is not right to see Japan as having legitimized child abduction in custody disputes, or of being a black hole for children whose parents are separated/divorced," the ministry said.

"We consider it highly important to deal with international child abduction in accordance with internationally standardized rules."

Earlier this week, The Canadian Press reported on the difficulties Canadian and other non-Japanese parents — mostly fathers — have in accessing their children in Japan after marital breakdowns. In some cases and despite court orders, the mothers have abducted the children and fled to Japan, where they remain with impunity, leaving the other parent frozen out.

Japan signed on to the Hague Convention on international child abductions in 2014 but parents say it has been of little help in getting their children returned to Canada, or even in getting access to them.

Colin Jones, a Canadian lawyer in Kyoto, said in an interview Wednesday that the problem isn't so much with adherence to the Hague Convention, but rather with a Japanese court system that lacks tools for forcing people to return children. Police will typically not get involved in custody battles, he said, and no one will use force to separate a child from a parent unwilling to hand them over.

"Even if you win, you have trouble getting the child back," Jones said. "A really recalcitrant parent can frustrate the process."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

We'll always have Paris

ENVIRONMENT

Commons votes to ratify global climate agreement

The House of Commons voted Wednesday to ratify the Paris agreement on climate change, cementing a cornerstone of the Liberal government's environmental policy and helping to tip the scales on the global deal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

After proposed amendments went down to defeat, the motion to ratify the deal passed by a margin of 207 to 81, with the New Democrats voting with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his majority Liberal caucus.

The Opposition Conservatives, who tried to amend the motion to do away with Trudeau's controversial carbon-pricing plan, voted against ratifying the accord.

Wednesday's vote — paired with similar expressions of support from the European Union and Nepal — means the deal comes into force in 30 days, after the number of countries ratifying the accord passed a key threshold.

The agreement, which calls for emissions reductions limiting global temperature increase to well below 2 degrees C, only takes effect 30 days after it is adopted by 55 countries representing at least 55 per cent of global emissions.

The debate over Paris became contentious earlier this week when Trudeau announced plans to impose a minimum carbon price on provinces and territories that have not done it themselves.

The plan requires that provinces and territories establish a mechanism, either a cap-and-trade plan or carbon price, of at least $10 per tonne of emissions in 2018, rising to $50 a tonne in 2022.

The Conservatives had said they would not support the motion without an amendment, which went down to defeat Wednesday, that would have forced the Liberal government to abandon its carbon-pricing plan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Judicial Council asks for more disciplinary options

The Canadian Judicial Council wants more flexibility when it comes to deciding how a federally appointed judge should be disciplined for misconduct. The council is asking the Liberal government to amend the Judicial Act to give it the formal authority to impose a range of remedial measures or sanctions. This comes as a panel is in deliberations following a disciplinary hearing for Federal Court Justice Robin Camp, who asked a sex assault complainant why she didn't keep her knees together.

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Guterres the top choice to lead UN

POLITICS

Former PM of Portugal slated to be the world body's next chief

Portugal's former prime minister Antonio Guterres won the Security Council's unanimous backing Wednesday to become the next UN secretary-general, winning plaudits for his strong leadership but disappointing campaigners for a woman or East European to be the world's top diplomat for the first time.

The veteran politician and diplomat, who served as the UN's refugee chief until December, topped all six informal polls in the council after his performance in the first-ever question-and-answer sessions in the 193-member General Assembly, which received high marks from almost every diplomat.

Britain's UN Ambassador Matthew Rycroft said the assembly hearings showed that Guterres "was an outstanding candidate … who will take the United Nations to the next level in terms of leadership" and will provide "a moral authority at a time when the world is divided on issues, above all like Syria."

Russia's UN Ambassador Vitaly Churkin, the current Security Council president, appeared before reporters surrounded by the 14 other council ambassadors after the sixth informal poll of the 10 remaining candidates was held behind closed doors saying: "You are witnessing, I think, a historic scene."

Churkin then thanked all the candidates saying they displayed "a lot of wisdom, understanding and concern for the fate of the world" and announced: "We have a clear favourite, and his name is Antonio Guterres."

He said the Security Council would hold a formal vote on Thursday morning and expressed hope that the council will recommend Guterres by "acclamation" to the 193-member General Assembly, which must approve a successor to Ban Ki-moon whose second five-year term ends on Dec. 31.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Antonio Guterres

> **We have a clear favourite, and his name is Antonio Guterres.**
> Vitaly Churkin

REFUGEES ANOTHER MASS CROSSING OF RIVER Greek police detained 214 Syrian refugees after they crossed a river that forms a natural border with Turkey, authorities said Wednesday. The announcement marked the second recent mass crossing of the Evros River — 107 refugees were detained in the same border area last week. Migrants are seeking alternative routes to the E.U. after a crackdown on crossings to the Greek islands started in March. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

WEATHER

Hurricane aims for the Bahamas

Rescue workers in Haiti struggled to reach isolated towns and learn the full extent of the death and destruction caused by Hurricane Matthew as the powerful storm battered the Bahamas on Wednesday and triggered large-scale evacuations along the U.S. East Coast.

At least 11 deaths were blamed on the hurricane during its weeklong march across the Caribbean, five of them in Haiti. But with a key bridge washed out, roads impassable and phone communications down, the western tip of Haiti remained cut off a day after Matthew made landfall and there was no full accounting of the dead and injured in its wake.

After moving past Haiti, Matthew rolled across a corner of Cuba and then began pounding the southern Bahamas with winds of 195 km/h and heavy rain on a course expected to take it near the capital city of Nassau during the night.

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Indigenous body looks to expand

ADVOCACY

Manitoba body plans to be a national organization

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce member Darrell Brown, who owns Kisik Commercial Furniture in Winnipeg, supports the expansion plan. LYLE STAFFORD/FOR METRO

Indigenous business leaders from coast to coast may soon have a unified voice.

That's because the Winnipeg-based Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce, which improves opportunities for Manitoba's indigenous and northern businesses, is planning to extend its reach by becoming a national body.

"We're going to be there within a year," said board member Damon Johnston. "It's always been part of the conversation ... we're now executing necessary moves to get there, doing due diligence, we've looked at the financial viability."

His vision is for the expanded chamber to raise the profile of Indigenous businesses across Canada, network to "create opportunities for indigenous entrepreneurs," and advocate on their behalf.

At its core, the plan is about "the indigenous business community in the country catching up with the broader business community."

Chamber member Darrell Brown, who owns Kisik Commercial Furniture in Winnipeg, supports the expansion plan.

"We want a strong voice for policy," he said. "If we are asked to give feedback to the finance minister on a federal or provincial budget, we'd want our chamber to be putting our voice forward as a collective membership on issues like that."

Johnston explained how the chamber, in its current form, has been growing in Manitoba since it was founded in 2004. It has around 150 members.

Each year, it coordinates more events, adds more profiles to its website, and organizes seminars and learning opportunities.

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CHANTAL HÉBERT ON THE NEXT PQ LEADER

The new Parti Québécois leader, to be announced Friday night on the heels of an all-members vote, will inherit a fractured party, short on new blood and rife with personal and policy divisions.

It is hard enough to be an opposition leader without starting out with knives sticking out of one's back. But that is the fate that awaits the next leader of the Parti Québécois, whoever he or she might be.

The winner — to be announced Friday night on the heels of an all-members vote — will inherit a fractured party, short on new blood and rife with personal and policy divisions.

Far from reconciling the various factions that make up what is left of the PQ coalition, the leadership campaign has exacerbated differences on referendum strategy and highlighted divisions on the party's approach to the accommodation of religious minorities.

This week's vote is not expected to resolve those issues. On the contrary, it could lead to more showdowns and possibly a party schism on the road to a general Quebec election scheduled for 2018.

Former provincial minister Martine Ouellet made the holding of a referendum on Quebec's independence at the first opportunity the mantra of her campaign.

She is facing long odds in this week's vote. Most PQ members can do the math and see that it adds up to a glaring deficit of support for sovereignty. But she is not about to take no for an answer.

Should she lose her leadership bid, Ouellet vouches to continue the fight to ensure that a referendum is in the party's 2018 election platform.

By all indications, the leadership vote boils down to a closer-than-expected contest between two other former PQ ministers, Jean-François Lisée and Alexandre Cloutier. They hold irreconcilable views on the accommodation of religious minorities.

Most PQ members can do the math and see a glaring deficit of support for sovereignty.

Parti Quebecois leadership candidates Paul St-Pierre-Plamondon, from the left, Jean-Francois Lisee, Alexandre Cloutier and Martine Ouellet join hands at the end of a debate in Quebec City on Monday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Over the last stretch of the campaign, Lisée has advocated a softer version of the PQ's controversial secularism charter and suggested, among other measures, a ban on the wearing of burkas and niqabs in public.

Cloutier is determined to not revisit that particular battlefield. He believes the charter episode has cut off the party not only from more recent Quebecers but also from younger voters.

The numbers tend to support his case. The accommodation debate has negative traction among those aged 18 to 34 but relatively strong legs among older voters. The latter happen to be disproportionally represented within the PQ.

The leadership campaign has done little to re-energize the party. Together, the candidates recruited 12,000 new members but 17,000 existing ones declined to renew their membership. The average age of the PQ base hovers around 60 years old.

This will be the sixth changing of the guard since Jacques Parizeau resigned the day after the 1995 referendum. Over that period, the party's drive to make the province independent has become increasingly divorced from the mainstream concerns of voters.

A recent CBC-Angus Reid Institute poll found that 75 per cent of Quebecers do not expect the province to secede from Canada. Two thirds feel the sovereignty debate has played itself out.

Essentially the PQ has just spent six months playing on its most divisive weaknesses to the detriment of its social-democratic strengths.

When all is said and done, its best hope of returning to government would be to convince the scores of progressive voters — many of them federalists — who are turned off by the austerity policies of premier Philippe Couillard's Liberal government, to coalesce behind the party.

But since the last referendum, sovereigntist sympathizers have been more likely to cross the divide to support progressive policies — as they did in the case of Jack Layton's NDP in 2011 or, more recently, Justin Trudeau's Liberals — than the reverse. And someone who voted for one or the other of these federal leaders is unlikely to be attracted to variations on the defunct secularism charter.

If one had to use one word to sum up the PQ campaign, it would be acrimonious.

Just this week Ouellet accused her rivals of undermining the sovereignty project by refusing to commit to a referendum in the next PQ mandate.

Cloutier received hate mails for taking his distance from charter-style identity politics. At one of the debates, he was booed for pointing out that Quebec did not have the constitutional right to ban English from its court system.

There are lessons in the corrosive unfolding of this exercise for the fractious federal Conservatives. It is one thing to drop the gloves to drive home wedge issues in the heat of a leadership campaign, and another to live with the consequences on the morning after the battle.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro on Thursdays.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

Good to know that my government cares about racism — sometimes

When a fan throws a beer can at a Jays game, you know the Ontario Attorney General's going to have something to say about it.

And sure enough, that kind of bad behaviour just won't be tolerated.

Fans ought to be "responsible and respectful" Yasir Naqvi told the Sun newspaper. Beer can throwing? Definite no-no. But it makes for a great headline. And even better Twitter investigation fodder for journalists (one even found the perp!).

Less fun and a much less popular headline: Jays fans spew racial slurs at opposing Orioles. That's what some Orioles players said they got, instead of a beer can.

Naqvi has some words there, too: "I think we all know that if there are ever racial slurs used towards anybody then that's unacceptable in the society we live in."

Well, phew. So glad he said it. Because, you know, he might want to talk to a few Ontario police forces.

Yesterday, APTN reported that Thunder Bay police have suspended one officer and put four more on administrative duties in the wake of racist comments posted to the Facebook page of The Chronicle Journal newspaper.

Here's the alleged post of Const. Robert Steudle, suspended with pay: "Natives are killing natives and it's the white man's fault natives are drunk and on the street and its white man's fault natives are homeless and its white man's fault and now natives are lying about how they are treated by white men an explanation is given and it's the white men who are lying. Well let's stop giving the natives money and see how that goes."

Over in Ottawa, Sgt. Chris Hrnchiar remains on active duty after allegedly posting this below the Ottawa Citizen report of the death of famed Inuk artist Annie Pootoogook: "And of course this has nothing to do with missing and murdered Aboriginal women.....it's not a murder case.....it's could be a suicide, accidental, she got drunk and fell in the river and drowned who knows.....typically many Aboriginals have very short lifespans, talent or not."

Hrnchiar went on: "Because much of the aboriginal population in Canada is just satisfied being alcohol or drug abusers, living in poor conditions etc..... They have to have the will to change, it's not society's fault."

Ottawa police are investigating the comments, but the chief said that police, like everyone, will have "conscious or unconscious biases," which should not impact their work.

That's a funny, roundabout way of saying we need to fight racism in police forces. Like, you know, the drunken Indian stereotype, or the idea that a whole class of people deserves poverty, lack of education, access to clean water, to health, safety, and freedom.

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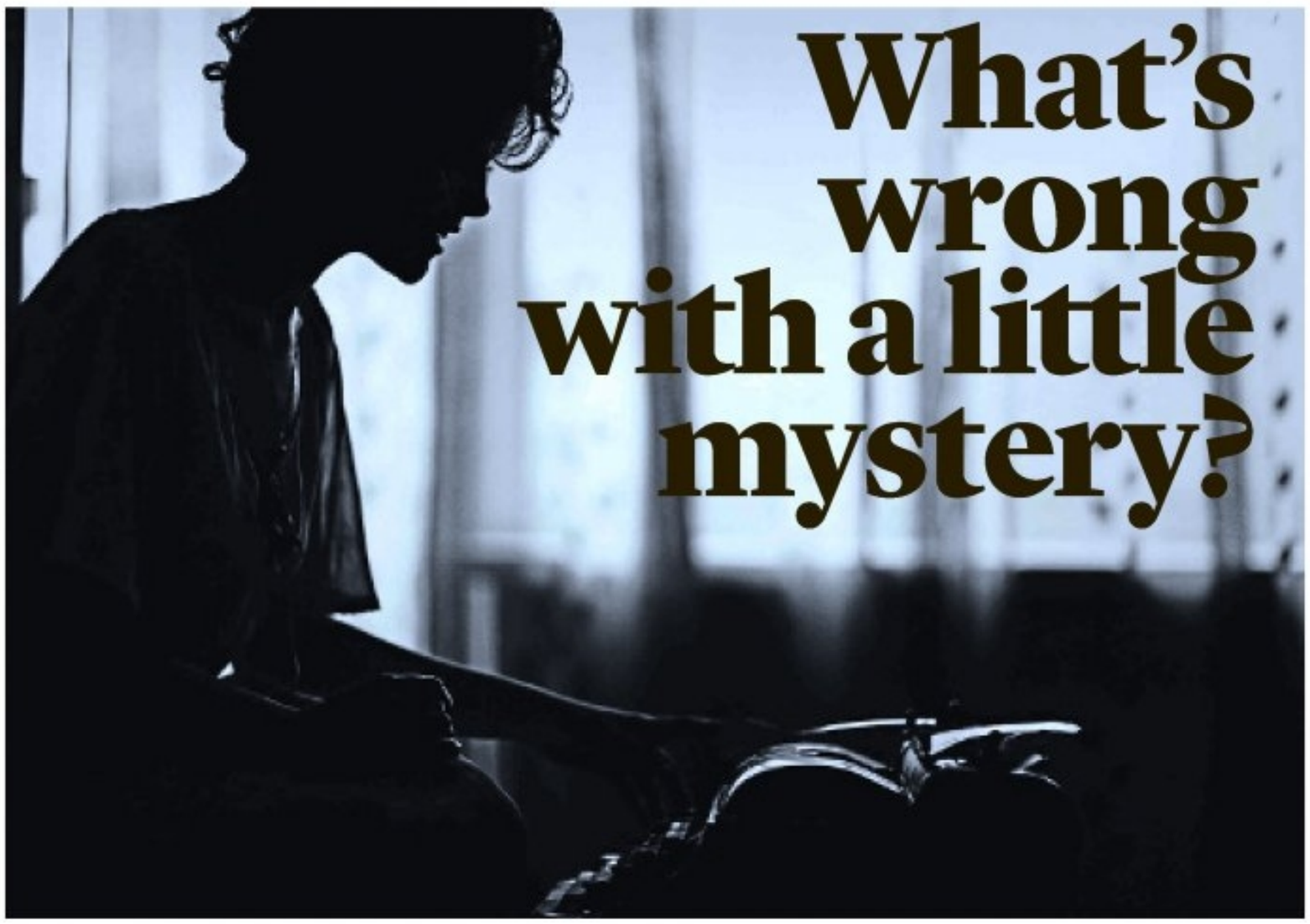
ANALYSIS

Why the unmasking of Elena Ferrante caused outrage

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada



What's wrong with a little mystery?

What is it exactly that we expect from our authors these days? It's not enough to just write a novel anymore — a gruelling enough feat — or endure the occasional book signing, writers are now expected to engage with readers on social media like never before.

It comes naturally to some: Margaret Atwood, who is a Twitter pro, once drew superhero costumes for two comics-loving followers, and Joyce Carol Oates — who never seems to sleep — tweets constantly about politics, her feed peppered with photos of cats and city gardens.

Thanks to social media, we know that Stephen King loves the Netflix show Stranger Things and cranking up Grandmaster Flash on Saturday nights.

Social media, while allowing minor glimpses into the lives of public figures, has also created a false sense of personal connection with fans. Ironically, it's Elena Ferrante's absence from this world that has made her a literary phenomenon.

On Sunday, after writer Claudio Gatti claimed to have discovered her identity and outed her in The New York Review of Books, fans of the pseudonymous best-selling Italian author reacted swiftly with anger.

I'm sure that the Review editors expected readers to be grateful, and you can't blame them, really; after all, we live in a TMZ world that devoured all the sordid details of Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's split.

But in a few interviews, Ferrante has been adamant that her cherished anonymity is what allows her to focus on her craft, and if she were to be revealed, she would stop writing.

Fans, including notables like Salman Rushdie, rushed to defend her privacy, and their own right to not know.

Until now, Ferrante has enjoyed the best of both worlds. She could lead her life and pursue her profession on her own terms. Meanwhile — and without her ever participating — the delicious secret surrounding her identity became her "personal brand" (another repercussion of the online world: authors must now market themselves like products).

After the English translation of her four-novel Neapolitan series became cultishly popular, tourism in Naples, where the books are set, increased thanks to what's been dubbed "Ferrante fever."

Even local pizza parlours are naming pies after her.

Last year I spoke to Paula Hawkins, author of one of the biggest books in the world, The Girl on the Train, about the personal effects of massive success.

"I'm not recognized, so I can go back and live the same normal life, which is lovely," she said.

Hawkins is active on Twitter (after the Review of Books Ferrante article came out, she posted "Leave her the hell alone") and attends public events, but that is her professional decision.

Over the years, the notoriously reclusive author Thomas Pynchon has endured his own share of snooping.

There's even an annual Pynchon in Public Day on May 8, but it's a good-natured event, where fans are encouraged to post photos of themselves reading the author's books. And when Pynchon made a cameo appearance on The Simpsons wearing a paper bag adorned with a question mark, it was a knowing wink: he's in on the joke, too.

But what happened to Ferrante, and ultimately to her diehard fans, was not funny. Even when the media attaches a name to British street artist Banksy — whose identity is the biggest mysteries in the cultural world — there has never been this kind of backlash.

Some speculate there's a deep undercurrent of misogyny, that a woman's space has been once again violated, despite her pleas for anonymity.

But perhaps in a world where so much information is available to us, and we can find out what George R.R. Martin ate for breakfast, a little mystery is actually a welcome and needed respite.

It was all about falling in love with Ferrante's books, not clicking the Like button.

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

I'm not recognized, so I can go back and live the same normal life, which is lovely

The Girl on the Train author Paula Hawkins

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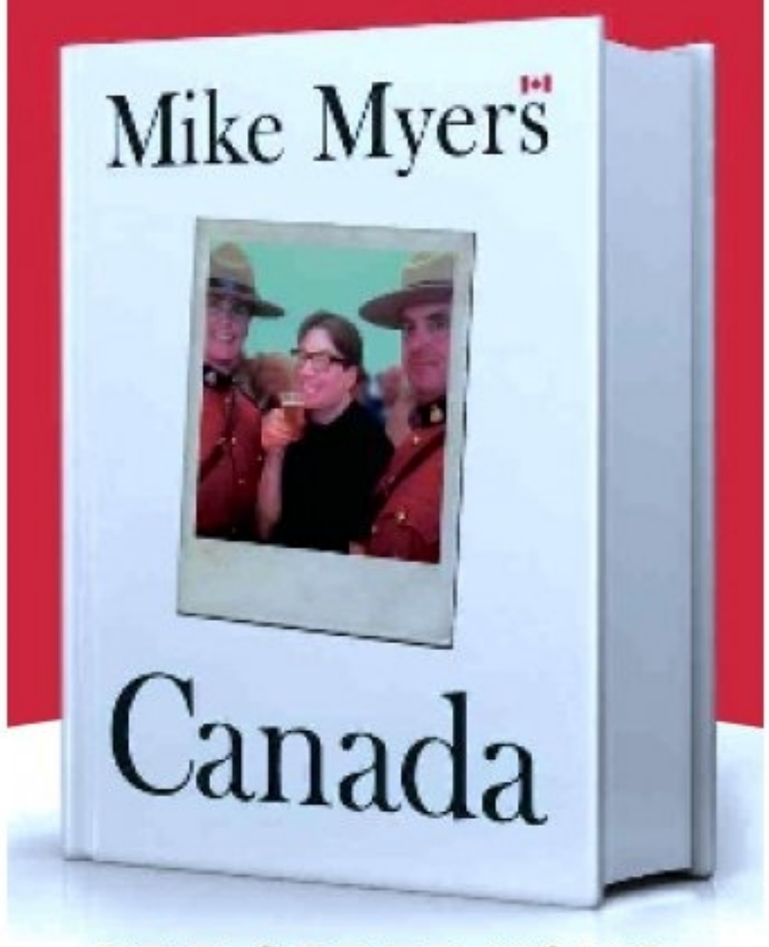

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No plaguey way! Atwood on Shakespearean insults

Margaret Atwood's latest novel, Hag-Seed, is a retelling of The Tempest. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

INTERVIEW

A wicked twist in the retelling of The Tempest with Hag-Seed

Melita Kuburas
Metro | Canada

In many ways, Margaret Atwood in person is exactly how you might expect her to be.

She speaks carefully, chin lowered so her celestial blue eyes gaze upwards while making contact with mine. In a half-hour conversation she moves swiftly between references to The Oresteia, to Titus Andronicus, to comic books like Mama Tits Saves the World. I stop taking notes, praying my recorder doesn't fail, because it feels like I need my total concentration; like my neurons are firing on overdrive. "Be cool; be smart!" I'm thinking.

What's unexpected in meeting Atwood is how her jokes and cultural references remind me of the impish sense of humour from her novels. By the end of the interview, she's explaining why it's important to be more creative with our cuss words — maybe like the cultured, foul-mouthed French. ("I think that the French are extremely inventive with their swearing. Moreso than the English at the moment," she says.)

Her latest book, Hag-Seed, takes place in a town that's a train ride away from Toronto — the Stratford, Ont.-like home of Makeshiweg Theatre Festival where artistic director Felix Phillips has been fired just before he is able to put on his version of Shakespeare's The Tempest. After going into a self-imposed exile, he begins teaching at a correctional facility where he eventually decides to put the play on with prisoners as the actors and producers. Much like the base material, Atwood's story is one of revenge, imprisonment, and ultimately forgiveness.

But the Tempest is a weird play.

"It's not like anything else in Shakespeare," says Atwood, about why she chose to re-imagine it for The Hogarth Shakespeare Series (Knopf Canada) that has popular novelists put their own spin on the works of The Bard.

"If you read The Tempest closely, you'll realize, as indeed is pointed out, that everybody in it is in prison at some point in their life. Or they're being threatened with it. And the last three words of Prospero are 'set me free.' So 'What is he imprisoned by?' is one of the questions."

Atwood read prison literature to research the theme: A Crowbar in the Buddhist Garden, Running the Books: The Adventures of an Accidental Prison Librarian, even Orange is the New Black. But Laura Bates' memoir Shakespeare Saved My Life was perhaps most helpful in depicting how criminals relate to the literature.

"She said she got better papers out of those people than she got out of her regular university students because they've been there done that. Macbeth, they really understood," Atwood jokes.

In addition to the Shakespearean themes of violence, grief and obsession, Atwood's Hag-Seed also touches on the benefits of education in prisons, and how a tough-on-crime approach seems outdated. Felix Phillips's nemeses decide to pull the plug on his literacy program, calling it an indulgence.

"I think we really need to rethink what prisons are for," says Atwood. "We know that if you educate people, it gives them a whole new open door," she says.

It also allows people to express themselves in different ways, some more noble than others. Because the prisoners in the book are prone to salty language, Atwood's character bans swear words in the workshops, encouraging the cast to use Shakespeare's words to insult one another instead. Suddenly, they're referring to one another as "pox brain," "whoreson," "freckled whelp" and "wide-chapp'd rascal."

"Sometimes blocking off one line of communication makes you very inventive in other ways," says Atwood, adding she is a fan of the Shakespearean insult generators online, but doesn't necessarily have a favourite.

She has, however, read Merde!: The Real French You Were Never Taught at School, to tap into the ingenious slurs of the French.

"So now I can understand much better what people are saying. I once heard a taxi driver say to another taxi driver, "So you learned to drive with your ass— or what?"

ON STAGE

If Shakespeare were alive today...

In November, the Royal Shakespeare Company will launch its version of the play for Shakespeare's 400th jubilee using video game technology and transmedia, hoping to attract new audiences.

Atwood is excited to see it. "If Shakespeare were alive today he'd be using all of that stuff," she says. "They're using the technology that they used for Gollum in The Lord of the Rings. So you put markers on a human actor, and then you make a holographic projection, and then the actor moves behind the scenes, which causes the hologram to move." MELITA KUBURAS/METRO

Behind the Bolshoi's ego-driven crimes

NON-FICTION

Violent attack sets scene for story of Russian ballet company

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Princeton University music professor Simon Morrison had been spending a lot of time in Moscow doing research when the news broke in 2013 that Sergei Filin, the artistic director for the Bolshoi Ballet, had been severely burned and almost blinded after acid was thrown in his face by an anonymous attacker.

Morrison had contacts within the theatre, and so was encouraged by his agent to write a story about the attack and his personal observations of one of the world's most venerable dance companies.

He met with Filin and members of his inner circle, but at this point, no one knew that the mastermind behind the violence was a volatile, ego-driven solo Bolshoi dancer named Pavel Dmitrichenko, who was angry at Filin for not casting his girlfriend in lead roles.

"I was talking with the theatre about this case in the darkest moment of it, when it was unclear why it had happened and who was responsible, and there were all these rumours swirling," Morrison says.

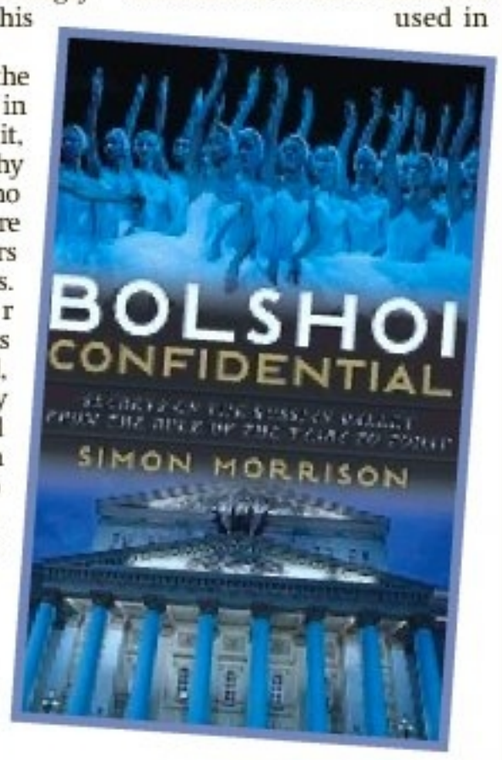
Even after Dmitrichenko was charged and imprisoned, Morrison was hooked by the story. He continued to dig deep through various city archives to learn more, and discovered this crime wasn't an isolated incident in the Bolshoi's tumultuous 240-year history.

"It had always been a tempest," he says. Insiders revealed to Morrison that "this was something of a horrible sideshow in the history of a really complicated theatrical enterprise," which made him wonder, exactly how did the dysfunctional Bolshoi come to create some of the world's most memorable, breathtaking art?

Morrison answers that question in his new book, Bolshoi Confidential: Secrets of the Russian Ballet from the Rule of the Tsars to Today, an impressive, sweeping account of the theatre from its beginnings in 1776, under the rule of a charlatan Englishman named Michael Maddox, described as a crimson-cloaked "mathematician or tightrope walker," depending on which of his anecdotes you believe. In its early days, the ballet was considered to be a "second-tier tawdry art form," says Morrison, and there were calls for its abolishment.

The theatre went bankrupt several times, dancers were treated horrifically, and Morrison recounts so many devastating fires and rebuilds, it's almost comical. Yet, as he observes, "It was during these really, really dark times that these masterpieces came to be, like Don Quixote and Swan Lake."

Bolshoi Confidential also examines how ballet has been used in Russia over the centuries as a propaganda tool, and how the dance evolved into the gruelling classical form recognized today. For most of its history, Morrison says, the Bolshoi wasn't about physical perfection; it was "far more real and gritty and human." But during the 20th century, and the Communist Party's promotion of the "New Soviet person," Morrison says, "Ballet became the embodiment of this superhuman athleticism."



While there are many episodes in the Bolshoi's past that could easily be framed as a real-life Black Swan — including Dmitrichenko's recent claims that he wants to return to the ballet now that he's out of prison — Morrison says the reality is much more complex and nuanced.

"The thing I came away with is that this is not the easiest world to understand," he says.

"I just tried my best to at least understand a portion of it."

> **This was something of a horrible sideshow in the history of a really complicated theatrical enterprise.**
> Simon Morrison

BOOK BRIEF

DJ Khaled offers up his advice in book form

DJ Khaled wants it all written down.

The hip-hop producer and artist, radio personality and Snapchat favourite has a deal with Crown Archetype for The Keys, to be published Nov. 22.

According to an announcement by publishing company Crown, the book will feature personal stories, his philosophy for success and the background for some of his catchphrases such as "special cloth alert" and "bless up."

The book's title refers to what Khaled has called his bits of advice.

He said that he wanted to let everybody know the bits are the keys from his perspective. Khaled's most recent album, Major Key, came out last summer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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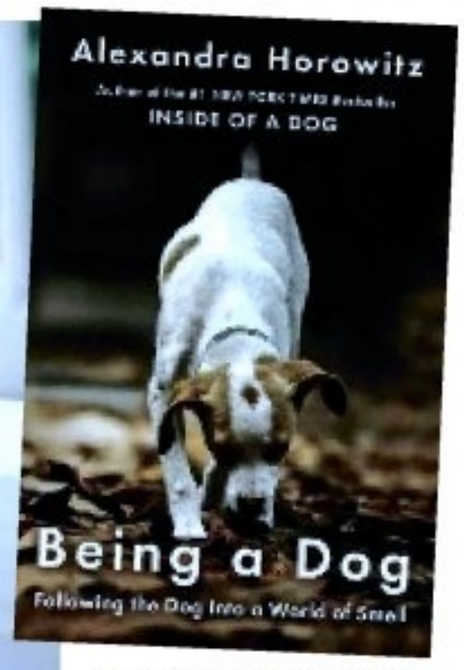
There is lots a dog's nose knows

RESEARCH

Canines smell the world the way we see it, author argues

Genna Buck
Metro Canada

This street looks entirely different to a dog, author Alexandra Horowitz says. For them, "It's not made of sight, it's made of smell." CONTRIBUTED



It's a mortifying moment dog owners know too well: Fido sticks his face somewhere it shouldn't be — a garbage can, next to a dead fish, close to a baby's diaper — just to get a good whiff.

Humans should "relax into it" says Alexandra Horowitz, a cognitive scientist whose new book, Being a Dog, explores how dogs are "olfactory creatures." The main way they understand the world and communicate is through smell.

And understanding that, she says, can help pet owners understand their furry friends a little better.

You wrote about dogs' sense of smell in your last book, Inside of a Dog. What did you want to add?
Inside of a Dog is about what's going on in the mind of a dog. I really only discovered, in the process of researching that book, how primary (the sense of smell) was for dogs. People really responded to that more than anything else. And I wanted to more fully examine it, as a smeller myself.

It's pretty amazing, what dogs can sense by smell. What struck you the most?
Being primarily a smelling creature changes your entire experience. It changes your perception utterly. Dogs know the time of day by smell. Their understanding of people's and dogs' identities are more about smell than anything else.

Walking around the street with my dog, in some ways I felt much more alien to their experience than I had before (I wrote this book). I imagine the street looks entirely different — it's made of smell to them, not of sight. It's the most profound difference between humans and dogs. Humans have pretty good noses, but we don't use them that much.

How do you know how a dog experiences the street?
The idea that the dog is primarily olfactory comes from what the dog's genes and brain looks like. Then you look at dogs' behaviour. If we stop looking at a dog as if they are choosing where to go based on their vision, we see that they're rooted in where they look, what they approach, where they want to stop, and how they recognize something — all by smell.

> **Stick your nose into something and smell it. We can see something we didn't see before.**
> Alexandra Horowitz

What are the takeaways for pet owners who want to understand their dogs better?
It's (changing the way) you view a lot of their behaviour and misbehaviour — like smelling all over someone who's visiting your home. That is a dog's natural way, and primary way, of seeing the world. To not discourage them from smelling the fire hyrant, or that other dog, but to appreciate that's the way they're going to get information. They're going to have a better social interaction with other dogs, if they can smell them first, as opposed to being pulled away.

Why did you choose to include stories about your dogs, Finnegan and Upton, in Being a Dog?
My dogs are in my book because my dogs are in my life. As soon as I do research with dogs, I look at my own dogs differently, and I think that's an important step. I'm trying to be a recounter of the experience of the dog, and that means everybody's dog.

Can you pinpoint a moment when you saw your dog do something and said, "Oh, that's my finding in action?"
There have been a couple of lovely things with Finnegan. I realized that he sneezes when he finishes investigating something with his nose. It's his way of finishing a project and making his nose available for the next thing as we walk down the street.

I love that moment, and now I see it all the time, punctuating his days.

I also started doing nose work games with him. Nose work is a kind of organized game for dogs, where they progressively learn to find objects in more and more hidden environments. It kind of mimics what a detection dog would do, but with benign scents. One time — and it could have been entirely a coincidence — he found a lost object, a day book, that I was tearing apart the house looking for. He calmly sniffed his way right over to it and pointed with his nose. That is the type of thing that dogs are showing us all the time, it's only we don't know what they're seeing, so we don't see it as communication.

Is there one suprising fact or tidbit about dogs' smelling powers?
We all know dogs have a good nose, but exactly how good it is is always surprising. I've had people return to me (after reading Being a Dog) and say, "You know, I took 15 minutes to walk down the street because I bothered to stop and smell the tree trunk in front of me or nose the paint on the mailbox." They're delighted by the opening up of a sense. It's like a superpower we've actually always had, but we don't bother to use. And this is inspired by the dog approach to the world. Stick your nose into something and smell it, and we can see something that we didn't see before.

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MEET THE CONDO

In the heart of Yaletown

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

8X On The Park features spacious homes designed for daily luxury. Expansive windows bring in sun and starlight inside, while private balconies extend the living space into the open air. At 8X, only the best is considered the standard. Only 30 homes remain, all with park views.

Housing amenities

Amenities include nuheat flooring, WiFi enabled thermostat, luxurious Miele, sub-zero kitchens, Binova Italian cabinets and two parking stalls. The building has a rooftop terrace, lounge, and fitness centre. There's also a pet-washing room, bike repair room, and dedicated bike elevator with secure storage. All LEED Gold certified.

Location and transit

Located in Yaletown, 8X On The Park is less than a three-minute walk from the Canada Line. 8X has a transit score of 100, and a bike score of 94. You are literally steps away from everything downtown Vancouver has to offer.

In the neighbourhood

From this exclusive downtown neighbourhood, residents can easily visit the iconic Vancouver seawall to bike, walk, or run. Within 3 km of the home are seven parks, six entertainment facilities including Rogers Arena, and 200 of Vancouver's best restaurants.

NEED TO KNOW

What: 8X On The Park
Developer: Brenhill Developments Ltd.
Designer: BYU Design
Location: Yaletown, Vancouver
Sizes: From 1,041 square feet to 2,300 square feet.
Model: Remaining homes feature two-bedroom homes up to three-bedroom den and flex homes
Pricing: Two- and three-bedrooms starting from 1.6M
Status: Pre-sales
Occupancy: 2019
Sales centre: Site at 1111 Richards St., presentation centre at 1149 Hamilton St.
Phone: 604-801-6861
Website: 8xonthepark.com

Think of succulents as the new African violets: They're easy, disease-resistant and thrive in the dry heat common inside homes in the winter. DEAN FOSDICK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOW MAINTENANCE

Succulents are perfect for the season

If you're shifting to houseplants as cold weather approaches, consider gardening with succulents. Succulents are easy, disease-resistant, and thrive despite the dry air common indoors in winter. Think of them as the new African violets.

"They require so little care. They look good all the time and they do well in low humidity," said Gary Bachman, a research professor with Mississippi State University Extension in Biloxi.

Their soft, juicy leaves and enlarged stems allow the plants to store water under dry conditions.

"The only thing the homeowner can do wrong is overwater," Bachman said. "They won't like it in containers that don't drain well."

Succulents offer a wide variety of eye-catching foliage and flower colours.

"Growth habits include everything from ground-hugging creepers to upright growers," Bachman said.

Pruning generally is not required because the plants tend to be slow growers, he said.

Most succulents are tender plants — natives of frost-free areas — so planting them in shallow trays makes it simple to carry them inside before the killer frosts arrive.

"Succulents also are easy to plant indoors," Bachman said. "They look great on windowsills and bright office spaces."

Growing them in ornamental containers gives them a decorative edge when grouped with other houseplants. Combining several different kinds of succulents creates attractive dish gardens. Choose plants with similar growth habits and care needs, though. That makes them easier to care for.

Some succulents are hardier than others, but it's best to look at them as a group, Bachman said.

"Most require some care or protection in northern climates, although here in Mississippi and around the South, they generally can stay outdoors 12 months," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

First lady goes all-out to preserve garden

Sweet potatoes grow at Michelle Obama's White House Kitchen Garden. MANUEL BALCE CENETA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEGACY

Simple plot moved into broader Let's Move initiative

To: Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton

Subject: Don't mess with the garden.

There's no actual memo, but first lady Michelle Obama is going all-out to make sure the White House kitchen garden that she created in 2009 and expanded twice doesn't get plowed under by the next first family.

With less than four months left in the Obama administration, the first lady on Wednesday was unveiling an expanded and improved garden with the hope that it will endure regardless of who takes office come January.

The garden's size has grown from an original 1,100 square feet to 2,800 square feet.

It has a new wooden arbour for an entrance, wider bluestone walkways, wooden tables and benches.

There's even an inscribed stone that reads: "White House Kitchen Garden, established in 2009 by First Lady Michelle Obama with the hope of growing a healthier nation for our children."

And, to bat away any pesky questions about how to pay for the garden, the first lady announced private donations of $2.5 million to maintain and preserve it.

This patch of raised beds is much more than a garden to Mrs. Obama: It's her legacy, at the heart of her years-long quest to fight childhood obesity and promote healthier living.

School students will join the first lady on Thursday for the Obamas' final fall harvest, bringing in eggplant, okra, tomatoes, herbs and much more. Then, in coming weeks, the beds will be covered with plastic hoop houses to allow vegetables such as broccoli, kale and collard greens to grow right through the winter — and into the next administration.

Much as the first lady wants to see the garden endure, the next first family can decide whether to keep it or go in a different direction.

Neither campaign responded to a request for comment on what a Trump or Clinton administration might do with the kitchen garden.

But it's fair to speculate that it might be a higher priority for Clinton than Trump.

Clinton is known for eating lots of fruits and vegetables. Trump, not so much.

As first lady, Clinton directed chef Walter Scheib to bring "contemporary American cuisine and nutritionally responsible food to the White House," Scheib later wrote. There was even a small garden on the White House roof for growing produce, according to Scheib, who died in 2015.

Trump, for his part, loves red meat and is proud to patronize McDonald's and KFC.

What started for Mrs. Obama as a fairly simple kitchen garden in 2009 grew into her broader Let's Move initiative to promote healthy eating and habits.

Over the years, the garden has supplied fruits and vegetables for the first family, soup kitchens, guests at White House receptions and other events, even state dinners.

Students from around the country have helped with planting and harvesting, and 335,000 visitors have toured the garden over the years.

The garden updates were a joint endeavour of the National Park Service and the University of Virginia School of Architecture, whose students designed the new layout, arbour, table and benches.

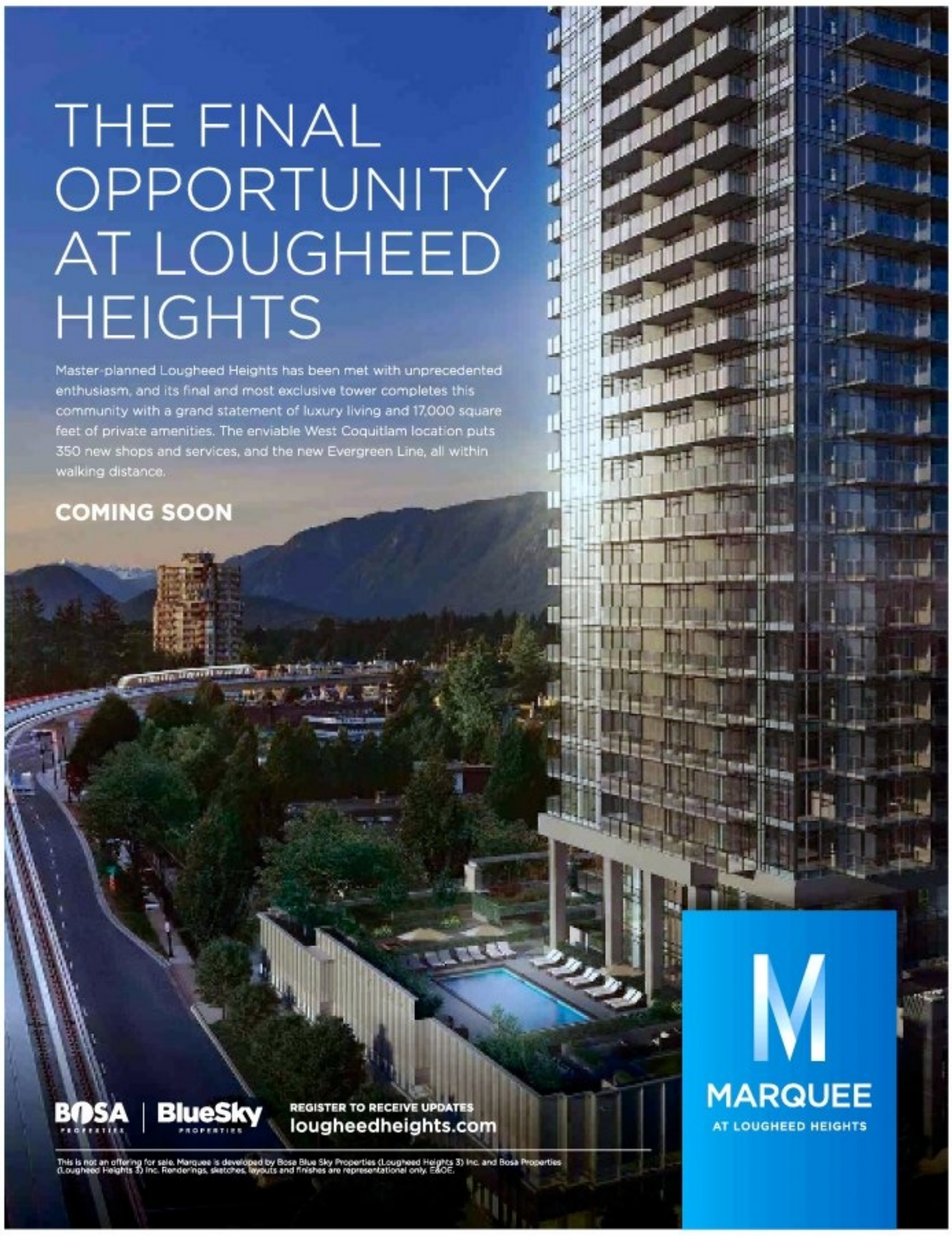
The furniture speaks to the first lady's vision of an enduring garden: It is made from reclaimed wood from Thomas Jefferson's Monticello in Virginia, James and Dolley Madison's Montpelier in Virginia and Martin Luther King Jr.'s home in Atlanta.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FINANCING

Keep it going

The Burpee Foundation and the W. Atlee Burpee Company contributed the $2.5 million to the National Park Foundation to ensure the garden is maintained.



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3	2	9	6	1	5	4	8	7
9	1	2	3	4	6	8	7	5
6	8	3	7	5	2	9	4	1
5	4	7	9	8	1	6	2	3
7	5	4	1	2	9	3	6	8
2	3	1	8	6	7	5	9	4
8	9	6	5	3	4	7	1	2

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Jewelry organizer doubles as decor

DIY

Heirloom brooches can be pinned and organized

Don't hide pretty jewelry in a box — hang it using a stylish and functional display made from repurposed picture frames and wooden hangers so it does double-duty as decor.

Storing jewelry vertically also keeps necklaces neat, organized and makes it easy to spot the pieces you love.

Whether you've inherited a collection of vintage baubles or you are looking for a simple solution to organize your bling, getting your jewels out of the box and onto the wall is a great way to display your precious metals.

Add a fabric remnant, such as linen or velvet, to the back of a frame and pin treasured heirloom brooches.

Drape necklaces from brass hooks added to a vintage wooden hanger or line the back of another, deeper picture frame with decorative paper and add cup hooks to hang a collection of necklaces. Hang the collection in an informal gallery on the wall, using picture-hanging hardware.

Hanging jewelry vertically keeps necklaces neat and makes it easier to spot all the pieces you love. DEBRA NORTON/FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Step 1: Gather supplies.

- Picture frames, one regular frame and one shadowbox-style frame
- Wooden hanger
- Paper
- Brass cup hooks
- Fabric
- Foam core
- Double-sided tape
- Scissors
- Wooden hanger
- Spray adhesive (optional)

Step 2: Prepare foam core and fabric.

Remove the glass and the back panel from the frame and measure. Using scissors, cut a piece of foam core to fit inside the frame. Place the foam core on fabric and trim the fabric so that it wraps around the foam core. Allow approximately 1/2" – 3/4" of fabric around the edges.

Step 3: Add the fabric

Lay the cut foam core on top of the fabric, wrapping it around the edges. Secure it with double-sided tape or use a spray adhesive to adhere the fabric to the foam core.

Step 4: Reassemble the frame.

Insert the fabric wrapped foam core inside the frame and insert the back panel.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RETAIL

Not feeling crafty? Buy it

If you prefer to buy rather than do-it-yourself, we've found four stylish, ready-to-hang jewelry organizers to keep things orderly.

1 **Les Récréations à Kim** Hang jewelry from this whimsical hook handmade using a slice of wood and a button.

2 **The Knotted Wood** If you prefer a minimal, rustic look, this handmade jewelry organizer will keep things neat and tidy.

3 **West Elm** Drape your prettiest jewelry from the tips of these silver branches.

4 **Dee Mac and Co.** The peg rail is reimagined as a multi-purpose wall organizer, handmade in Lakeshore, Ont.

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Exhibit explores roots of modern interiors

Grete Lihotzky's Frankfurt Kitchen from the Ginnheim-Höhenblick Housing Estate, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 1926-1927. The installation is part of an exhibit titled How Should We Live? Propositions for the Modern Interior. JONATHAN MUZIKAR/MOMA

MOMA

Post-WWI era set stage for pre-fabricated living spaces

In the chaotic aftermath of World War I in Europe, a small group of enterprising designers, artists and architects — many of them women — stepped forward with groundbreaking ideas for how to improve the quality of life through architecture and design.

Their efforts eventually resulted in what is now known as Modernist design, and in many of the conveniences people take for granted today, such as prefabricated houses, open-floor plans, and a more pragmatic and streamlined approach to interiors. Materials like Pyrex glassware and linoleum flooring, previously used commercially, were suddenly introduced for domestic settings.

How Should We Live? Propositions for the Modern Interior, on view at the Museum of Modern Art through April 23, highlights important yet unsung designers from this pivotal time, from the mid-1920s through the mid-'50s. It takes a closer look at the textiles, crockery, wall coverings and flooring that put iconic Modernist furniture in context.

Rather than focusing on isolated masterworks, the attention is on the interaction of design elements. Visitors are shown designers' own living spaces, and are invited to explore often-neglected areas of design, like exhibition spaces and promotional displays.

The story begins in Europe, said Juliet Kinchin, a curator in MoMA's Department of Architecture and Design.

"There was huge social and political disruption following the First World War, and there was a real housing crisis in many parts of Europe that was compounded then by the Great Depression," said Kinchin. The exhibition traces the start of the era to a huge interiors exhibit in Stuttgart, Germany, in 1927, which introduced people to novelties like tubular-steel furniture and prefabricated housing, including the truly contemporary Frankfurt Kitchen, an example of which is featured in the show.

In post-war Frankfurt, about 15,000 prefabricated modular housing units were built in just five years, and 10,000 of them featured one of several versions of the Frankfurt Kitchen. It was designed like a tiny but highly efficient factory, complete with a fold-down ironing board, pull-out cutting board, gas stove, swivel stool, pull-out aluminum storage bins, garbage drawer, draining board and built-in broom closet and cupboard.

The design was by architect Grete Schutte-Lihotzky, the first woman to qualify as an architect in Austria, and it is the earliest work by a female architect in MoMA's collection, Kinchin said.

"She was designing for single working women and working families, and was part of a democratizing impulse in Modernism to take advantage of new materials and new processes, like using heat-resistant glass or linoleum or cork, and use them in a domestic context," Kinchin said.

Philip Johnson, the founding director of MoMA's Architecture Department, went as a student from Harvard to the Stuttgart exhibition.

"He was really bowled over, particularly by the work of Lilly Reich and Mies van der Rohe," Kinchin said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Architects were really thinking about new ways of living, and how to simplify one's life and improve the quality of life for masses of people.**
> Juliet Kinchin, MoMa

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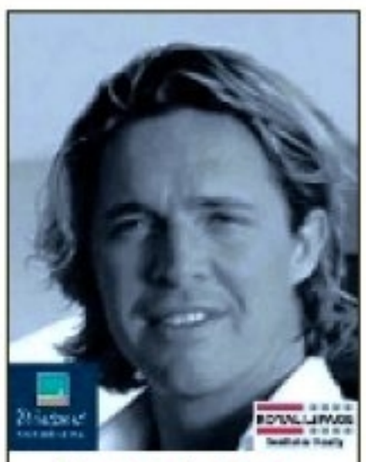

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metro SPORTS

Sportsnet said Tuesday's AL wild-card game was its most-watched program this year with an average audience of 4.02 million viewers

Let's get ready to rumble

MLB PLAYOFFS

Jays prepare for Rangers in rematch of last year's ALDS

The bad blood between the Texas Rangers and Toronto Blue Jays has been on a steady boil since Jose Bautista's infamous bat flip in last year's American League Division Series.

A Rougned Odor right hook to Bautista's jaw after a hard slide last May took things to another level.

Simply put, these teams can't stand each other. And now they're ready to square off again for the right to advance to Major League Baseball's final four.

Toronto's dramatic wild-card game victory over Baltimore on Tuesday night set the stage for another round in this dogfight between bitter rivals.

Buckle up baseball fans: this best-of-five series starting Thursday at Globe Life Park could get wild. On one side is the top-seeded team in the American League. The Rangers secured home-field advantage through the playoffs with a 95-67 record in the regular season. On the other is a Blue Jays club that finished with an 89-73 mark but was forced to go into Game 7 mode for its last three games due to a September slump.

The Rangers are the favourites but the Blue Jays shouldn't be counted out.

Rangers second baseman Rougned Odor rocks the Blue Jays' Jose Bautista during the last game played between the two teams in Texas, on May 15. R W. RODRIGUEZ/STAR-TELEGRAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITCHERS

Toronto has announced its starting pitchers for the first three games:

- GAME 1: **Marco Estrada** (9-9, 3.48 ERA) vs. Cole Hamels (15-5, 3.32); Thursday, 4:30 p.m. ET
- GAME 2: **J.A. Happ** (20-4, 3.18) vs. Yu Darvish (7-5, 3.41); Friday, 1 p.m. ET
- GAME 3: TBA vs. **Aaron Sanchez** (15-2, 3.00 ERA); Sunday, 7:30 p.m. ET

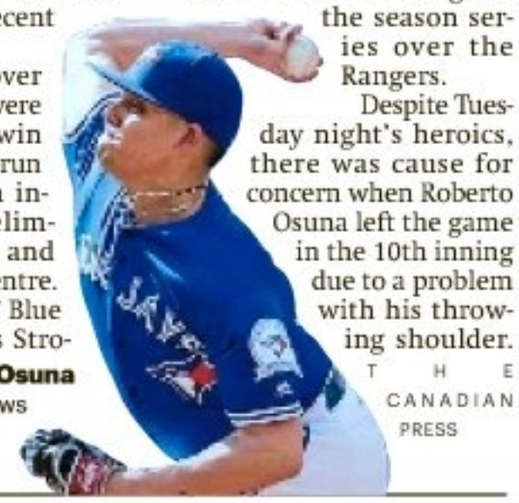
"We're just looking to put them away," Bautista said. "We've got to win some ball games. The offence has been streaky so hopefully we can get on a roll." Toronto has thrived under the recent pressure.

Weekend wins over the Boston Red Sox were impressive and Edwin Encarnacion's three-run homer in the 11th inning on Tuesday eliminated the Orioles and electrified Rogers Centre.

"We're not done," Blue Jays pitcher Marcus Stroman said afterwards in the champagne-soaked locker-room. "We realize what we're capable of and we're going to take this (momentum) into the next series."

Toronto had a 4-3 edge in the season series over the Rangers.

Despite Tuesday night's heroics, there was cause for concern when Roberto Osuna left the game in the 10th inning due to a problem with his throwing shoulder. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Roberto Osuna TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TORONTO

Jays fan in police photo identified

Toronto police released a photo Wednesday of a man alleged to be the beer-tossing fan at Tuesday's tense Blue Jays-Orioles game at Rogers Centre.

The ID of Ken Pagan, the man in the photo and a copy editor at Postmedia's Hamilton office, has been confirmed by the Toronto Sun, part of the same company.

The incident involved a partially full can of beer lobbed by a spectator in the seventh inning of the Blue Jays' tight wild-card showdown Tuesday night. The can nearly hit Orioles left-fielder Hyun Soo Kim. Meaghan Gray, a spokesperson for the Toronto Police Service, said the alleged beer-hurler would face general mischief charges.

SunMedia reported Wednesday that Pagan denied being the culprit, saying he'd been drinking from a plastic cup on Tuesday. Pagan, SunMedia reported, had spoken with Toronto police Wednesday and made arrangements to turn himself in but had not yet been charged.

The photo that police issued on Tuesday. HANDOUT

The Toronto Sun, who are owned and operated by Postmedia, posted an offer for a $1,000 reward for any information leading to identification of the beer thrower. The image released by police tipped off a citywide digital manhunt. Toronto Mayor John Tory was displeased, imploring fans seated nearby to turn the culprit in. LIZ BROWN, GENNA BUCK AND COLIN MCNEIL/METRO; WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

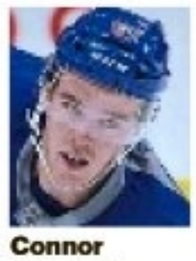
HOCKEY

McDavid youngest ever NHL captain

Oilers coach Todd McLellan knew Connor McDavid was ready to become the youngest captain in NHL history eight months ago.

After a long layoff due to a broken collarbone, McDavid returned to Edmonton's lineup and took charge. McLellan saw a supremely confident player on the ice, a person who was comfortable around teammates and at ease with the coaching staff.

"At that point it was real evident he was ready to lead this group," McLellan told reporters in Edmonton on Wednesday. At 19 years and 266 days, McDavid just edges out Gabriel Landeskog and Sidney Crosby as the youngest captain the league has ever seen. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Connor McDavid GETTY IMAGES

MLB WILDCARD

Giants send Mets packing, Cubs up next

San Francisco Giants' Conor Gillaspie hits a three-run home run against the New York Mets during the ninth inning of the National League wild-card game. KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Madison Bumgarner pitched a four-hitter in his latest post-season gem, Conor Gillaspie hit a three-run homer off Jeurys Familia in the ninth inning, and the San Francisco Giants beat the defending NL champion New York Mets 3-0 Wednesday night in the wild-card game.

Trying to follow their World Series titles in 2010, '12 and '14, the Giants open the NL Division Series on Friday at the best-in-the-majors Chicago Cubs.

Bumgarner has pitched 23 consecutive scoreless innings in winner-take-all post-season games following a four-hitter at Pittsburgh in the 2014 wild-card game and five innings of relief at Kansas City to save Game 7 of the 2014 World Series.

Mets pitcher Noah Syndergaard didn't allow a hit until two outs in the sixth and gave up two hits in seven innings. Addison Reed escaped bases-loaded trouble in the eighth.

Brandon Crawford doubled leading off the ninth against Familia, who walked Joe Panik with one out. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEDNESDAY in NYC

GIANTS	METS
3	0

IN BRIEF

Winning ring for former Cavaliers coach Blatt

Former Cavaliers coach David Blatt has accepted a championship ring from the team despite being fired last season. Blatt was dismissed midway through his second season by Cleveland.

His replacement Tyronn Lue guided helped the Cavs capture the first major sports championship by a Cleveland team since 1964. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

St-Pierre hints at return

St-Pierre said he wants to return to the octagon after a three-year hiatus. There have been reports he will fight in Toronto on Dec. 10 if he can he negotiate a deal with UFC's new owners. But he had few details to offer.

"I can't talk about it right now. Because I can be in trouble," he said. "We'll see what happens but I promise you, we may have some news soon." THE CANADIAN PRES

RECIPE One-Skillet Tomato Basil Chicken

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

One-pot dishes make dinner clean up easy and tomatoes, sweet basil and cheesy pasta make dinner wonderfully satisfying.

Serves 4

Ingredients

- Kosher salt and pepper
- 3 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 lb boneless, skinless chicken breast, cut into chunks
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 x 28-ounce can of San Marzano tomatoes
- 1 1/2 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 cup water
- 2 cups spelt penne pasta
- 1 cup freshly shaved Parmesan cheese, more for garnish
- 1 cup fresh basil leaves

Directions

1. Generously season your chicken breast with kosher salt and pepper. Cut into 1- inch chunks. Add olive oil to a large skillet warmed over medium heat. Place chunks of chicken in the pan and brown on all sides.

2. Lower the heat and add garlic to pan. Sauté the chicken and the garlic together for 1 minute. Add the can of tomatoes, chicken broth, water and uncooked pasta to the pan. Bring this mixture to a boil, then decrease the heat to low. Cover the pan and allow it to cook for about 15 minutes.

3. Remove cover and allow the pasta to cook for another 5 minutes, or until liquid is reduced by half. Remove your skillet from the heat and gently stir in the Parmesan cheese. Serve individual portions with a sprinkling of fresh basil leaves and a bit more parmesan cheese

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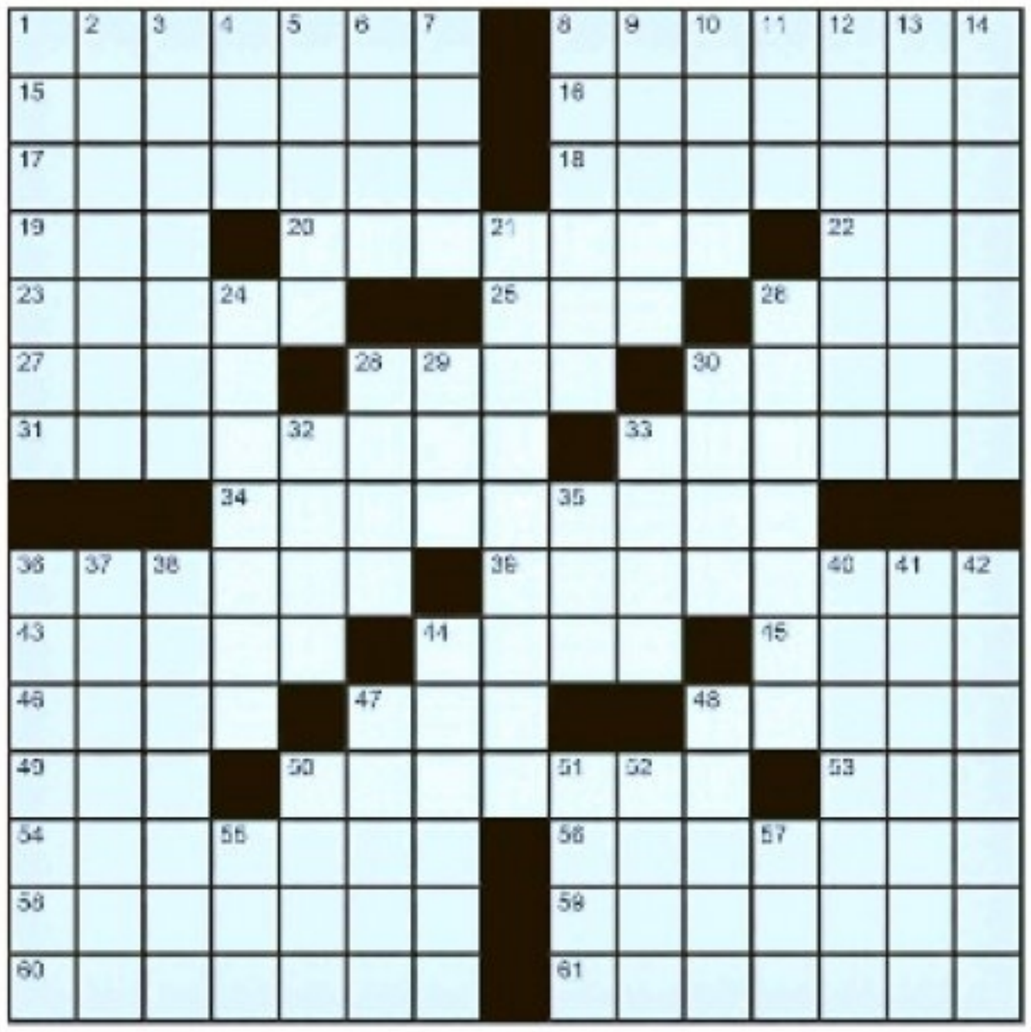
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS

1. Self-evident facts
8. __ Bay, Newfoundland
15. Ace
16. Political pundit Ms. Huffington
17. Dubai or Abu Dhabi
18. Put forth, as fact
19. Mr. Bachman
20. Quantity question?: 2 wds.
22. Pallid
23. Condo spaces
25. 'Count' suffix
26. Boost
27. __ the Clown of classic television
28. Chat
30. Undergarments brand
31. Portrayer of Jan on "The Brady Bunch": 2 wds.
33. Entrance areas
34. 'The Town That Says You're Welcome.' in Conception Bay North in Newfoundland
36. Butt against
39. Exorbitant
43. Group of three
44. Country star Mr. Paisley
45. Trick
46. Lester __, "NBC Nightly News" anchor
47. Gents
48. Canadian length measurement
49. Newly built house location selection
50. A Scandal in __ (Sherlock Holmes story)
53. Container cover
54. TV series installment
56. Records repository
58. Times on the job
59. Medical examiner
60. Most jumpy
61. Those comprehending, say

DOWN

1. England: London Underground, nicknamed: 2 wds.
2. House of __ (Anastasia's family)
3. Put to work
4. Medit. Sea land
5. Ex-rulers of Iran
6. Prefix to 'cross' (Off-road sport for bikers)
7. Crock-Pot serving
8. __ National Park, in northern Manitoba located by Hudson Bay
9. '-Z' Camaro models
10. Gomez's nickname for Morticia on "The Addams Family"
11. Oscar-winning composer Francis
12. Interlace
13. One running shoe
14. Sorrow
21. Eastern Townships township in Quebec which, by its name, makes one think of Australia
24. Last layer of lacquer: 2 wds.
26. Rural fun in the Fall
28. Go sour
29. Embassy diplomat, for short
30. Rime
32. __-back (Relaxed)
33. Catty conflict
35. Org. on "Snowden" (2016)
36. Football player or gymnast
37. Wilted
38. Leaving a love
40. Draft
41. Against the current
42. Those who are sowing
44. Command
47. Styles
48. Large in scale
50. Drill hole
51. Canadian filmmaker Mr. Sennett
52. Press
55. Fashion designer Anna
57. "__ Deep Is Your Love" by The Bee Gees

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Do something different today, because you are hungry for adventure and a chance to learn something new. If possible, travel somewhere or go someplace you've never been before.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a good day to attend to financial matters, especially related to inheritances, shared property, taxes and debt. Get rid of troublesome loose ends.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You have to accommodate others today, because the Moon is opposite your sign. (This simply means being co-operative and accommodating. No biggie.)

Cancer June 22 - July 23
) It will please you to do something today that makes you feel you are better organized. Get rid of what you don't need. Recycle. Tidy papers and magazines.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is a playful, flirtatious day. Do something that pleases you. Enjoy sports events, movies, the arts and fun times with children.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
A conversation with a female relative is important today. This is a good day to relax and hide at home among familiar surroundings.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
In conversation with others today, you want to have a serious discussion. Nothing superficial. You want to know how someone really feels about certain issues.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You might be possessive about something that you own today, which is why you don't want to let anyone use it. Some of you will need some shopping therapy..

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will be more emotional about things today because the Moon is in your sign. Keep this in mind when dealing with those who are close to you. Chill out.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Today you will prefer to work alone or behind the scenes because it just feels better. You also need a bit of space and a moment to catch your breath.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is the day for an important discussion with a female friend. Share your hopes and dreams for the future with this person to get her outlook.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Look for ways to impress someone in authority today, because it will be to your advantage. This person might be a boss, parent or anyone who has influence over you.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

4		5				3		
	1		7		4		5	
		7				9		
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